

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /011 R

DRAFTED BY: NEA; LBLAINGEN

APPROVED BY: NEA; SSOBER

S/S-O: PPSARROS

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O 121957Z OCT 74 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 226042

EXDIS, TOSEC 167, JERUSALEM ONLY ZDF

FOR ATHERTON FROM SOBER

FOLLOWING REPEAT ISLAMABAD 9765 ACTION SECSTATE 12 OCT 74

QTE

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 9765

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, PK, PFOR

SUBJ: SECRETARY'S VISIT TO SOUTH ASIA REQUESTED

1. AS REQUESTED, WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF DRAFTING
SUGGESTIONS FOR A JOINT STATEMENT WITH THE PAKISTANIS
TO BE ISSUED DURING YOUR VISIT HERE.

2. THE MORE I THINK OF THE DIFFICULTIES YOU ARE LIKELY
TO ENCOUNTER IN JOINT STATEMENTS VIRTUALLY ON SUCCESSIVE
DAYS IN AN AREA THAT IS BESET WITH REGIONAL PROBLEMS OF
AN EMOTIONAL NATURE THE MORE HORRIFIED I BECOME. AGREE-

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MENT ON TEXTS UNDER THESE CONDITIONS MAY BE DIFFICULT

AND TAKE VALUABLE TIME THAT MIGHT BETTER BE USED FOR DISCUSSION.

3. I ASSUME WE ARE COMMITTED TO THIS PROCESS IN INDIA AND TEHRAN. I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER WE ARE AS YET COMMITTED IN DACCA OR KABUL. WE ARE NOT AS YET HERE AS I HAVE AS YET CAREFULLY AVOIDED ANY MENTION OF A COMUNIQUE. IF IT IS NOT TOO LATE, SUGGEST CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO HAVING NO JOINT STATEMENTS IN DACCA, ISLAMABAD, OR KABUL, ALTHOUGH I WOULD WANT BOTH AMBASSADORS BOSTER AND ELIOT TO HAVE ACHANCE TO SUBMIT THEIR VIEWS. AS SEEN FROM HERE, YOU WILL PROBABLY NOT BE ABLE TO GO VERY FAR IN MEETING THE DESIRES OF THESE THREE COUNTRIES IN JOINT STATEMENTS AND I FEAR THAT EACH WILL WANT TO GET THEIR POSITION IN ON REGIONAL MATTERS. THE PUSHTUNISTAN ISSUE BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND AFGHANISTAN IS A GOOD CASE IN POINT. DURING A VISIT BY DAUD, MSOCOW WENT QUITE FAR IN THE COMUNIQUE THERE IN SUPPORTING DAUD'S POSITION THAT TROUBLES WITH PAKISTAN BE "NEGOTIATED". I PRESUME THEY ARE NOW WONDERING HOW TO HANDLE THIS ISSUE WITH BHUTTO, AND THERE IS ONE REPORT THAT INDICATES THE DESIRE FOR MORE TIME BETWEEN THESE TWO CMMUNIKES WAS A FACTOR IN THE POSTPONEMENT OF BHUTTO'S VISIT TO MOSCOW.

4. TURNING TO PAKISTAN ALONE, ANY JOINT STATEMENT HERE THAT DOES NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THEIR SECURITY CONCERN AND ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF MILITARY SUPPLY IN SOME POSITIVE FASHION, WILL FALL WITH A DEAD THUD REGARDLESS OF WHATEVER NICE THINGS IT MIGHT INCLUDE. I PRESUME YOU WOULD NOT BE IN A POSITION TO JOIN IN SUCH A POSITIVE STATEMENT, AND PARTICULARLY SO IMMEDIATELY AFTER YOUR VISIT TO INDIA. PAKISTAN WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY ALSO WANT SOME COMMENT ON THE NUCLEAR FIELD, AND HOPEFULLY SUPPORT FOR THEIR NUCLEAR FREE ZONE IDEA.

5. LASTLY, IF WE ARE TO HAVE JOINT STATEMENTS ON SUCH SHORT VISITS, THEY SHOULD IDEALLY BE AT LEAST PARTIALLY WORKED OUT ON A JOINT BASIS PRIOR TO YOUR ARRIVAL. THIS WOULD LEAVE THE CONCERN THAT IF WE SUBMIT A BLAND DRAFT TO THE PAKS BEFORE YOU GET HERE THEY MAY VERY WELL BE
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DISCOURAGED BEFORE THE TALKS EVEN START.

6. IF THERE IS MERIT IN THE SUBSTANCE OF THIS MESSAGE, I WONDER WHETHER JOINT STATEMENTS IN INDIA COULD BE LIMITED TO SPECIFIC ANNOUNCEMENTS SUCH AS ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT COMMISSION, ETC. IF A GENERAL TYPE COMUNIQUE COULD BE AVOIDED THERE THAT WOULD MAKE IT EASIER TO HAVE NONE AT ALL IN PLACES SUCH AS THIS.

7. I AM NOT GIVING ANY DISTRIBUTION TO THIS MESSAGE AS
YOU MAY HAVE REASONS TO DEFINITELY PREFER JOINT STATE-
MENTS. IF THIS IS NOT THE CASE, SUGGEST VIEWS OF
AMBASSADORS BOSTER AND ELIOT BE OBTAINED PRIOR TO ANY
DECISION.
BYROADE UNQTE INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, COMMUNIQUE, TOSEC 167
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE226042
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NEA: LBLAINGEN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740291-0918
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741049/aaaabplj.tel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <18 MAR 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S VISIT TO SOUTH ASIA REQUESTED
TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, PK, US, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: TEL AVIV JERUSALEM
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005